L.72

PHARMACEUTICAL VESSELS FROM ANCIENT PERSIA

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The special role of Persia on the development of specific pharmaceutical jars called Albarello and the creation of European pharmaceutical jars in the Middle Ages has been previously discussed. However, the situation of ancient Persian from 5000 years B.C. and Zoroastrian's time till the downfall of Sassanid dynasty (627 A.D.) pharmaceutical implements and containers from Persia has not been studied so far. For doing that, the remaining ancient Persian relics and museums from Khuzestan province e.g. Susa and Chaghazanbil; Fars province i.e. Persepolis, Pasargadae, Naghsh-e-Rostam, Kazeroon historical places; Tehran; Hamadan; Gilan; Yazd; Kerman and Isfahan provinces (I.R. Iran), and related ancient documents were surveyed and studied. The results showed the presence of different types of pharmaceutical vessels including: mortars and pistils e.g. a special one for preparing hair dyes; strainers; distillation vessels; teapots; rhitons; baby drug vessels; infant milk vessels and scent jars. We found that the existence of advanced form of pharmaceutical science in the ancient Persia is valuable for the further illumination of the history of pharmacy.

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